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BRONZE FONT AFTER CELLINI

A COLLECTOR of Mosso Santa Maria, Italy, Mr. de Masserone, who owned an antique bronze font which in design and even in execution suggested the work of that great artist, Benvenuto Cellini, always claimed that the font was from the hands of that master.

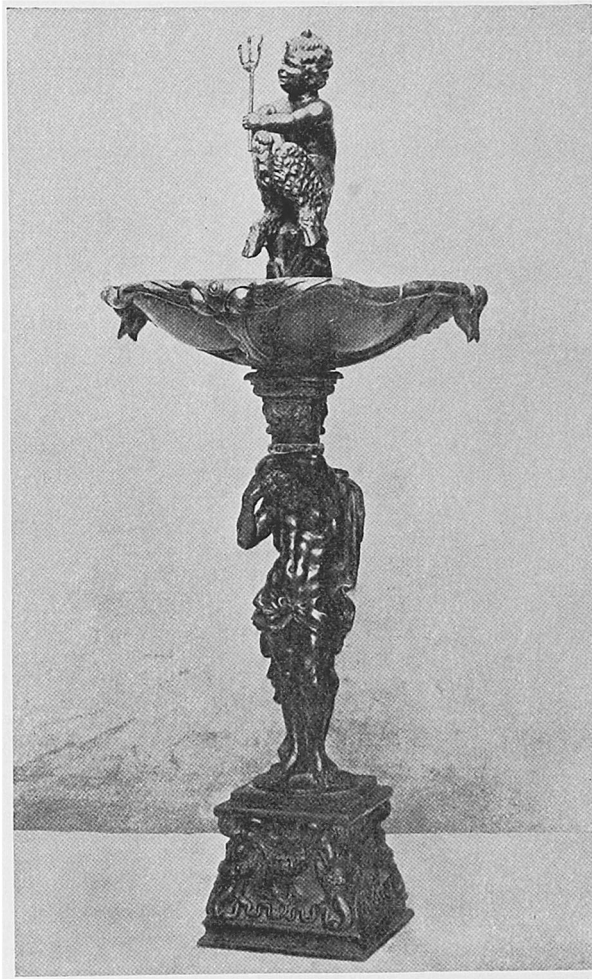
It is greatly to the credit of the present owners of this fine work of art that they estimate its provenance more conservatively. For the Aimone Galleries, of this city, who acquired the font from Mr. de Masserone, do not consider it an original from the hands of Benvenuto Cellini, but a very fine, in fact notable, Eighteenth Century reproduction of an original by that great master.

Thus the bronze is an interesting example of a reproduction, which,

because of the period during which it was made, is in itself an antique, yet refers back to something that is even more ancient. For while, as has been stated, the collector's claim that it was an original Benvenuto Cellini has been rejected by the Aimone Galleries, they assert with a positiveness based on expert knowledge, that this is a very old reproduction based on a Cellini original.

The young faun in the rôle of Neptune, the basin supported by the infant Hercules—

how graceful, how charming! And how replete with interest is this Eighteenth Century reproduction of a great master's work as an antique of an antique!



Antique Bronze Font after Cellini